

REMARKS

Re-examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicant notes that the Office Action mailed on April 22, 2004 does not indicate that the application is subject to a shortened statutory period for responding, thus, giving Applicant six (6) months within which to file a response. However, in order to expedite the examination of the application, Applicant submits the present response by the three (3) month response due date of July 22, 2004.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for approving the submitted drawings, for confirming the claim of priority that was submitted with the filing of the application, and for confirming his consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement that were filed on September 28, 2001; October 25, 2001; and December 4, 2001.

In this regard, the Examiner indicated that he did not consider the relevancy of Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-259528 and Japanese Patent No 3061933 on the ground that these documents were not in English. However, the PTO-1449 Forms returned by the Examiner crosses out Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 10-154052 and Japanese Patent No. 3061933. Accordingly, Applicant is unclear as to whether the Examiner did not consider the relevancy of Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 10-154052 or HEI 11-259528, and respectfully requests clarification

of this issue.

Applicant further notes that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 28, 2001 indicates that HEI 10-154052 corresponds to U.S. Patent 6,145,211 (which the Examiner considered), and that HEI 11-259528 was submitted with an English language Abstract (also considered by the Examiner). Applicant also notes that the Information Disclosure Statement indicates that the relevancy of each document (including each foreign document) is discussed in the International Search report that accompanied the filed Information Disclosure Statement. Thus, Applicant submits that he has complied with all the requirements necessary to ensure consideration of each foreign language document, and respectfully requests that the Examiner indicate his consideration of all the foreign language documents (and not just the English language Abstracts) in the next official communication. For the convenience of the Examiner, Applicant includes a copy of the PTO-1449 form that was previously submitted, and respectfully requests that the Examiner place his initials next to each foreign language document to confirm his consideration thereof.

Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 1-21 as being obvious over U.S. Patent 6,594,633 to BROERMAN in view of U.S. Patent 6,201,546 to BODOR.

According to a feature of the present invention, a database stores data for displaying an image, and a browser enables a prospective purchaser to see a three-dimensional image of a house on a computer. The browser includes a plurality of display performing sections that enable the performance of different functions, such as, for example enabling the prospective purchaser to change a viewpoint from which the interior of the house is shown. Applicant submits that at least these features are neither disclosed or suggested, either individually or in the combination set forth by the Examiner.

BROERMAN discloses a computer network for a real estate transaction, in which a communication is made electronically among a buyer, a seller, and a third party (e.g., a lawyer, mortgage broker, title provider, etc.) to enable the parties to negotiate and make a contract. However, Applicant submits that the browser of BROERMAN differs from the browser of Applicant's invention. In particular, Applicant submits that the browser of BROERMAN only provides for a character display of data between a seller and a buyer. In this regard, Applicant submits that Figs. 4 and 5 of BROERMAN clearly discloses that the display of data or information is limited to character data, and does not provide a three-dimensional display of an image of a house, as is provided by Applicant's invention.

Applicant also submits that BODOR fails to disclose that which is lacking from BROERMAN. Applicant submits that BODOR discloses a system and method for generating and displaying a three-dimensional textured model from a two-dimensional image. BODOR does not appear to display an actual three-dimensional image, but merely a model generated from two-dimensional data.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the combination of BROERMAN and BODOR does not disclose or even suggest Applicant's invention, as defined by the present claims. In this regard, Applicant submits that BROERMAN's system is for the exchange of character data for the transaction of real estate. Applicant submits that this document does not teach or suggest providing a three-dimensional image of a house to a prospective purchaser, as taught by Applicant's invention, so that the prospective purchaser can have a clear image of a house that s/he is interested in buying. Further, Applicant's invention permits the prospective purchaser to change a viewpoint of the displayed image, resulting in the creation of a virtual "tour" (experience) of the house that is for sale. On the other hand, Applicant submits that the present invention provides the prospective buyer with a browser that takes the necessary data for the display and observation of the image of a house.

Accordingly, even if one attempted to combine the teachings of BROERMAN and

BODOR in the manner suggested by the Examiner, Applicant submits that one would fail to arrive at the present invention, in which a browser enables to prospective purchaser to see a three-dimensional image of a house on the computer, in which the browser includes at least a first display performing section that enables the three-dimensional display of an interior of the house, and a second display performing section that enables the prospective purchaser to change a viewpoint in the virtual space from which the interior of the housing is seen.

By the current amendment, Applicant amends the claims to more clearly recite the present invention, in accordance with the above-presented discussion. As Applicant submits that at least these features are lacking from the prior art combination set forth by the Examiner, Applicant submits that the claims are allowable over the applied art of record. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of the claims, to indicate the allowability of the pending claims, and to pass the application to issue.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

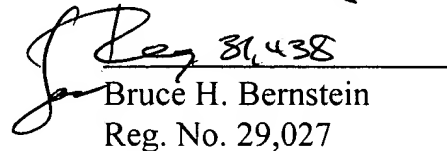
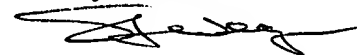
In view of the fact that none of the art of record, whether considered alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the present invention as now defined by the pending claims, and in further view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the

Examiner's action and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested and are believed to be appropriate.

Should the Commissioner determine that an extension of time is required in order to render this response timely and/or complete, a formal request for an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), is herewith made in an amount equal to the time period required to render this response timely and/or complete. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required extension of time fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

If there should be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Kayo IMAMURA


Reg. No. 29,027

July 22, 2004
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Enclosure:
PTO-1449 Form filed with September 28, 2001 Information Disclosure Statement (copy)

Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P21001Serial No.
09/868,640INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Kayo IMAMURAFiling Date
June 28, 2001Group
2171

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6 1 5 4 2 1 1	11/28/2000	KAMACHI et al.			

RECEIVED

JUL 26 2004

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
9 7 / 0 0 4 7 4	01/03/1997	W.I.P.O.			
0 7 7 9 5 7 4	06/18/1997	E.P.O.			
1 0 1 5 4 0 5 2	06/09/1998	JAPAN			
1 1 2 5 9 5 2 8	09/24/1999	JAPAN			
3 0 6 1 9 3 3	06/23/1999	JAPAN			
1 0 1 2 4 5 7 4	05/15/1998	JAPAN			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

1	English Language Abstract of JP 11-259528.
2	English Language Abstract of JP 10-124574.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.